

### **REMARKS**

This responds to the Office Action mailed on February 17, 2005.

Claims 3, 13, 17, 20, and 27 are amended, claims 1,2, 7-12, 18, 19 and 24 - 27 are canceled, and no claims are added; as a result, claims 3-6, 13-17, 20-23 and 28-31 are now pending in this application. The amendments to the claims are fully supported by the specification as originally filed, and no new matter has been added. The amendments are made to correct the informalities identified in the office action and to put the claims in condition for allowance. The amendments are not intended to limit the scope of equivalents to which any claim element may be entitled. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the amendments above and the remarks that follow.

### **§103 Rejection of the Claims**

Claims 1, 2, 7-12, 26, and 27 were rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yellin et al. (U.S. 6,603,823) in view of Levin et al. (U.S. 2003/0021334 A1). Claims 1, 2, 7-12, 26, and 27 are cancelled to obtain an early allowance of the remaining claims. The applicant reserves the right to reintroduce the cancelled claims in a later continuation application.

Claims 18, 19, 24, and 25 were rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Levin et al. (U.S. 2003/0021334 A1) in view of Yellin et al. (U.S. 6,603,823). Claims 18, 19, 24, and 25 are cancelled to obtain an early allowance of the remaining claims. The applicant reserves the right to reintroduce the cancelled claims in a later continuation application..

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 3-6, 13-17, 20-23, and 28-31 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 3-6, 13-17, 20-23, and 28-31 are written with claims 3, 13, 20, 28 amended to be in independent form. Allowance of claims 3-6, 13-17, 20-23, and 28-31 are respectfully requested.

Conclusion

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicant's attorney ((612) 349-9592) to facilitate prosecution of this application.

If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.

Respectfully submitted,

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By their Representatives,

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Date Aug. 17, 2005

By Ann M. McCrackin  
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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: MS Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this 17 day of August, 2005.

ANN M. MCCRACKIN  
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